

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all versions and listings of claims in this application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide or a derivative or homolog thereof which *in situ* forms part of the extracellular matrix (ECM) in an animal, wherein said polypeptide comprises a von Willebrand Factor A (VA)-related domain encoded by a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

i. a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1;

~~ii. a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7;~~

~~iii. ii.~~ a nucleotide sequence having at least about 65% similarity to SEQ ID NO:1; and

~~iv. iii.~~ a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:1 ~~or SEQ ID NO:7~~ or the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 ~~or SEQ ID NO:7 forms~~ under low stringency conditions.

2. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO:1.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is a von Willebrand Factor A-Related Protein (WARP) encoded by the nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

i. a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5;

~~ii. a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3;~~

iii.ii. a nucleotide sequence having at least about 65% similarity to SEQ ID NO:5; and

iv.iii. a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:5 or ~~SEQ ID NO:3~~ or the complement of SEQ ID NO:5 or ~~SEQ ID NO:3~~ under low stringency conditions.

5. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 4, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by SEQ ID NO:5.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1 comprising an amino acid sequence substantially a set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid ~~sequence~~-sequence having at least about 65% similarity to SEQ ID NO:2.

8. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 7, wherein the ~~polypeptide~~  
polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, comprising an amino acid sequence substantially a set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid ~~sequence~~-sequence having at least about 65% similarity to SEQ ID NO:6.

12. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 11, comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

13-42. (Canceled)